

(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 338 882 (13) A

(43) Date of Publication 12.01.2000

(21) Application No 9915408.0

(22) Date of Filing 02.07.1999

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(51) INT CL⁷

A01K 31/12

(52) UK CL (Edition R)

A1M MAP

(56) Documents Cited

GB 0977667 A US 5588397 A

(58) Field of Search

UK CL (Edition Q) A1M MAP

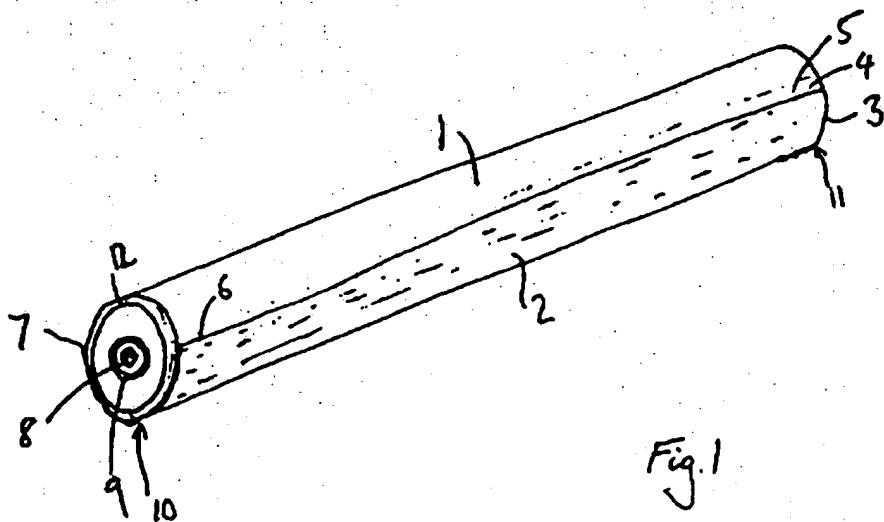
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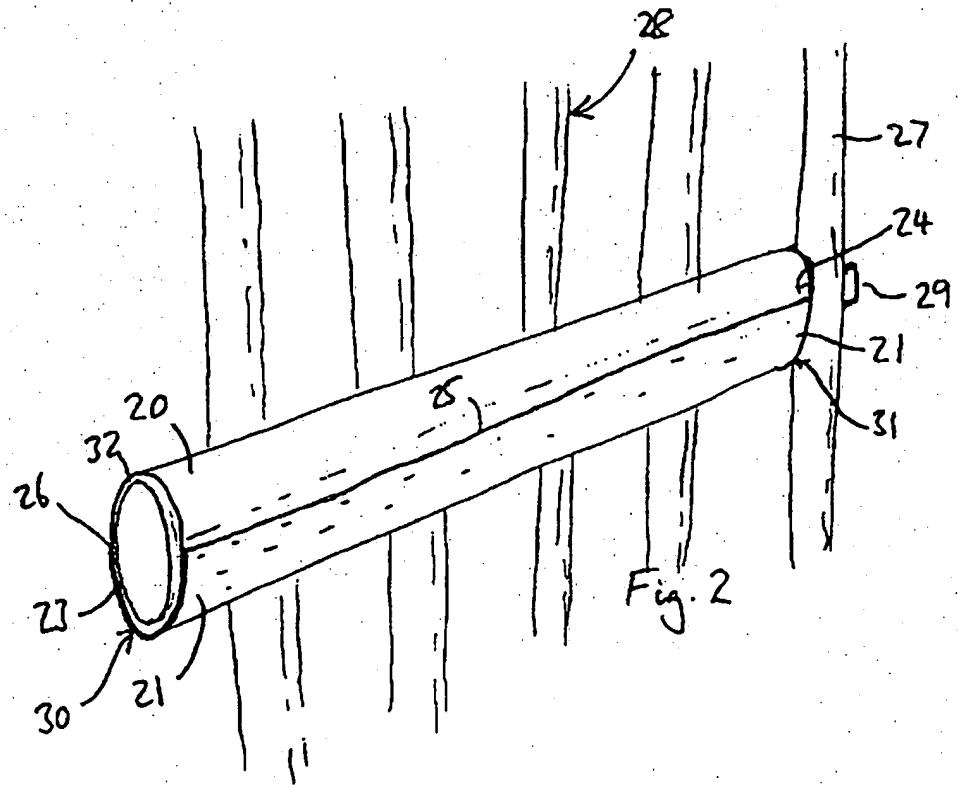
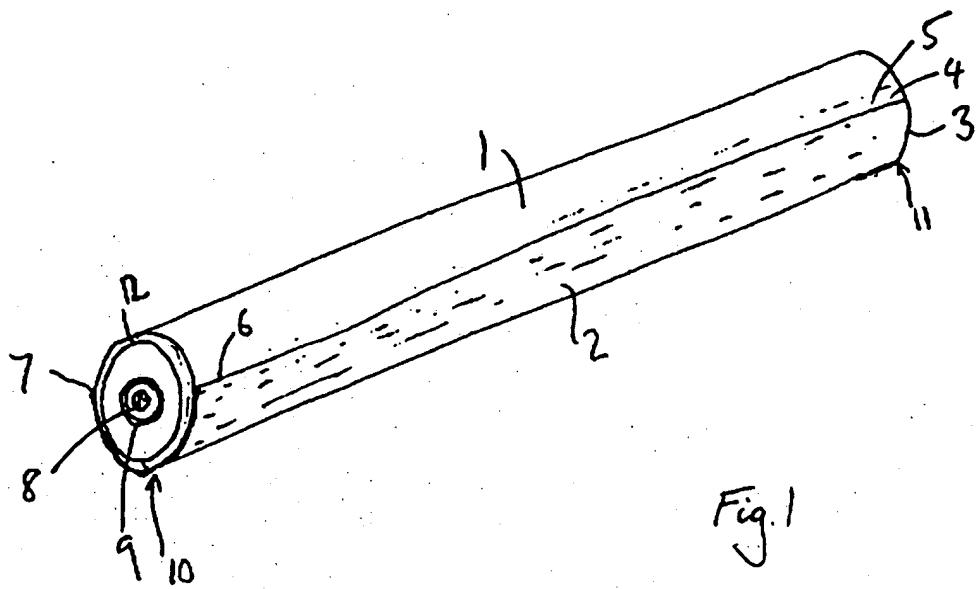
(54) Abstract Title

Abrasive bird perch

(57) A perch for a bird 1 comprises a dowel where at least part of the surface of the dowel is abrasive 2. The abrasive surface may be abrasive paper 2 adhered to the lower part of the perch. The abrasive paper may be wet and dry paper.



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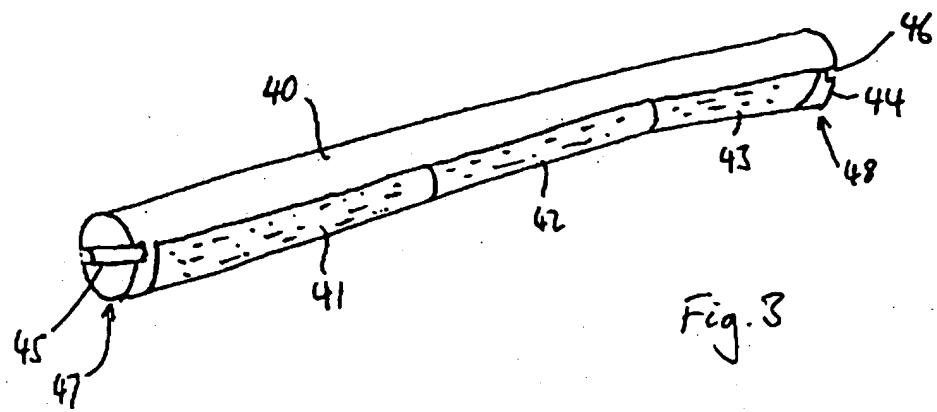


Fig. 3

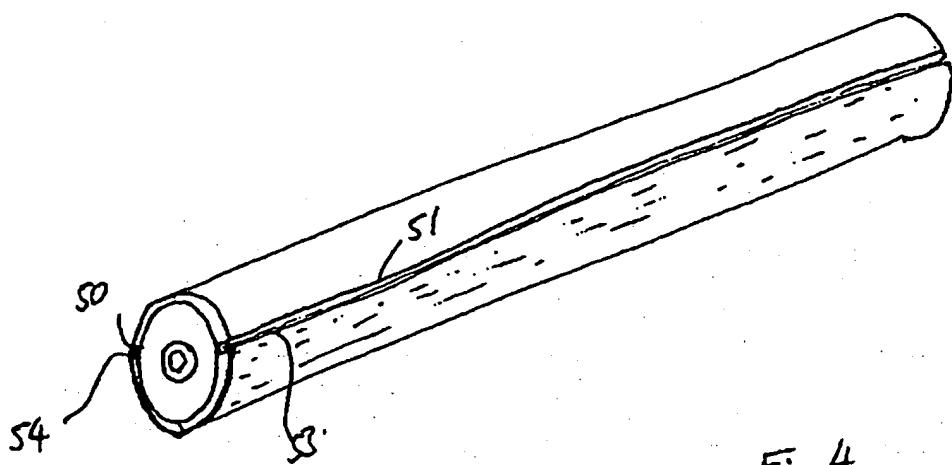


Fig. 4

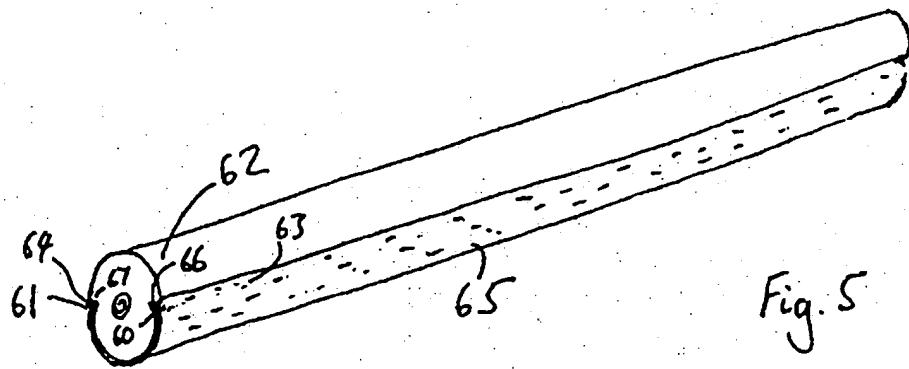


Fig. 5

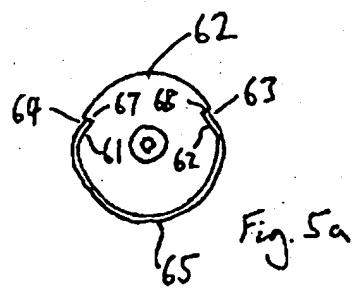


Fig. 5a

A PERCH AND A CAGE FOR A BIRD

The present invention relates to a perch for a bird and a cage provided with the perch.

5 A perch for a bird is generally made from a dowel of wood or plastics material. The perch may be supported in on bars of a cage.

10 It has been observed that claws of a bird held in captivity need to be clipped at regular intervals of perhaps two months. This is a costly and time consuming procedure.

15 According to the present invention, there is provided a perch for a bird, said perch comprising a dowel characterised in that at least part of the surface of said dowel is abrasive.

20 Advantageously, said abrasive material extends substantially along the entire length of said dowel. Accordingly, wherever a bird rests on the perch, claws of the bird are likely to be in contact with the abrasive material.

25 Advantageously, said dowel comprises an upper part and a lower part, and said abrasive is located on said lower part of said dowel, such that, in use said abrasive material is located where claws of said bird rest.

30 Preferably, said abrasive is adhered to said dowel. The abrasive material may be adhered to the dowel using an epoxy based adhesive which is generally water resistant.

35 Advantageously, said abrasive material comprises an abrasive paper although the abrasive could comprise, for example abrasive particles adhered or otherwise secured to the perch.

40 Preferably, said abrasive material is wet and dry paper. Wet and dry paper can be washed under a tap without adversely affecting the abrasive qualities ther of.

Advantageously, said dowel comprises a groove into which an edge of said abrasive material is inserted. A bird using the perch may attempt to tear an edge of the abrasiv material, in order to inhibit this a groove may 5 be used in which the ends of the abrasive material may be inserted.

Preferably, said dowel comprises wood. Birds generally appears to prefer wood to perch on.

Advantageously, said dowel is provided with fixing 10 means for attaching the dowel to a stand or bars of a cage.

The present invention also provides a cage provided with a perch according to the present invention.

For a better understanding of the present invention, reference will now be made, by way of example, to the accompanying drawings, in which:

5 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a first embodiment of a perch in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of part of a cage provided with a second embodiment of a perch in accordance with the present invention incorporated;

10 Figure 3 is a perspective view of a third embodiment of a perch in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a fourth embodiment of a perch in accordance with the present invention;

15 Figure 5 is a perspective view of a fifth embodiment of a perch in accordance with the present invention; and Figure 5a is an end view of the perch shown in Figure 5.

Referring to Figure 1, there is shown a perch comprising a solid wooden dowel 1 having a circular cross-section. A sheet of abrasive material known as 'wet and dry' 2 is adhered to a lower portion 3 of the wooden dowel using an contact adhesive 4 such as that known and sold under the Trade Mark EVOSTICK. It should be noted that the adhesive 4 is applied to the surface of the lower part 3 of the wooden dowel 1 and to a portion 5 thereabove, such that during assembly, edges 6 and 7 of the sheet of wet and dry 2 are firmly adhered to the wooden dowel 1.

Fixing apparatus comprises an internally threaded member 8 located in a recess 9 in one end 10 of the wooden dowel 1. The internally threaded member 8 allows insertion of a threaded bolt (not shown), which can be used to attach the perch to an upright or part of a cage. Ends 10 and 11 of the wooden dowel 1 are provided with a chamfer 12 (and not shown) about the perimeter of the wooden dowel 1.

The wooden dowel 1 is approximately 28mm in diameter and 170mm in length. The sheet of 'wet and dry' extends along 160mm of the length of the dowel and is 52mm in width, covering 220° of the wooden dowel 1. The 'wet and dry' may be of a fine grade abrasive, or may be a course grade abrasive. The fine grade abrasive can conveniently be formed from a sheet of Tex Professional P150 waterproof paper, whilst the course grade can conveniently be formed from a sheet of English Abrasive P80C waterproof silicon carbide paper.

This embodiment is suitable for a bird such as a parrot which perches on the exposed part of the dowel 1. Pads of the parrot's feet rest on the exposed part of the dowel 1, whilst claws of the parrot rest on the abrasive surface of the 'wet and dry'.

A perch suitable for a bird such as a McCaw is shown in Figure 2. The perch comprises a solid wooden dowel 20 having an oval cross-section. A sheet of 'wet and dry' 21 is adhered to a lower portion 22 of the wooden dowel 20 using an contact adhesive 23 such as that known and sold under the Trade Mark EVOSTICK. It should be noted that the adhesive 23 is applied to the surface of the lower part 21 of the wooden dowel 20 and to a portion 24 thereabove, such that during assembly, edges 25 and 26 of the sheet of wet and dry 21 are firmly adhered to the wooden dowel 20.

The perch is provided with a similar fixing apparatus to that of the first embodiment. The perch is shown fixed to a bar or upright 27 of a cage 28 by a bolt 29 passing through a hole in the upright and passing into an internally threaded member in a recess in the wooden dowel.

End 30 of the wooden dowel 20 is provided with a chamfer 32 (and not shown) about the perimeter of the wooden dowel 1. End 31 of the wooden dowel 20 is shaped

so as to conform to the outer form of the bar 27.

The wooden dowel 20 has a minor axis of approximately 25mm, a major axis of approximately 37mm and a perimeter of approximately 100mm. The wooden dowel 20 is approximately 180mm in length. The sheet of 'wet and dry' 21 extends along 170mm of the length of the dowel and is 62mm in width, covering 62% of the perimeter. The 'wet and dry' may be of a fine grade abrasive, or may be a course grade abrasive.

This embodiment is suitable for a bird such as a McCaw which perches on the exposed part of the dowel 1. Pads of the McCaw's feet rest on the exposed part of the dowel 20, whilst long claws of the McCaw rest on the abrasive surface of the 'wet and dry'.

The embodiment of a perch shown in Figure 3 comprises a solid wooden dowel 40 having circular cross-section. three sheets of 'wet and dry' 41, 42 and 43 is adhered to a lower portion 44 of the wooden dowel using an contact adhesive 45.

The perch is provided with grooves 45 and 46 in each end 47 and 48 of the dowel 40, such that in use, the grooves 45 and 46 slide on to horizontal bars of a cage. The dowel 40 may be cut to length and grooved to fit various sizes of cage.

The wooden dowel 40 has a diameter of approximately 28mm and is approximately 500mm in length.

The fourth and fifth embodiments shown in Figures 4 and 5 respectively, are generally similar to the embodiment shown in Figure 1. The fourth embodiment has the addition of grooves 50 and 51 into which ends 53 and 54 of the abrasive material 55 are inserted. The fifth embodiment has portions 60 and 61 removed from the dowel 62 such that the ends 63 and 64 of the abrasive sheet material 65 abut a shoulder 66 and 67.

It is envisaged that smaller perches would be

suitable for birds such as budgies and canaries.

In use, as the birds move along the perch and move their claws whilst resting in one place on the perch, the movement of the bird's claws relative to the 'wet and dry' trims the claws and saves regular visits to the vet. Whilst 'wet and dry' has been found particularly suitable, it is envisaged that other abrasives would also be suitable and, indeed, experience may show that different grades of abrasives may be appropriate for different varieties of birds.

It is envisaged that other adhesives could be used, for example an epoxy resin.

Particular known cages are provided with hatches arranged in a top thereof. A perch may be suspended between the hatches when open. A perch of the invention may be suitable to replace the perch in this arrangement.

CLAIMS:

1. A perch for a bird, said perch comprising a dowel characterised in that at least part of the surface of said dowel is abrasive.
- 5 2. A perch as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said abrasive extends substantially along the entire length of said dowel.
- 10 3. A perch as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein said dowel comprises an upper part and a lower part, and said abrasive is located on said lower part of said dowel, such that, in use said abrasive material is located where the claws of said bird rest.
4. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said abrasive is adhered to said dowel.
- 15 5. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said abrasive comprises an abrasive paper.
6. A perch as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said abrasive material is wet and dry paper.
- 20 7. A perch as claimed in Claim 5 or 6, wherein said dowel comprises a groove into which an edge of said abrasive material is inserted.
8. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said dowel comprises wood.
- 25 9. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said dowel is provided with fixing means.
10. A perch substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and shown in Figure 1 or Figure 2 or Figure 3 or Figure 4 or Figures 5 and 5a of the accompanying drawings.
- 30 11. A cage provided with the perch as claimed in any preceding claim.

Amendments to the claims have been filed as follows

1. A perch for a bird, said perch comprising a dowel having a surface which is at least partly covered in an abrasive material characterised in that said abrasive material comprises wet and dry paper.
5
2. A perch as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said wet and dry paper extends substantially along the entire length of said dowel.
3. A perch as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein said dowel comprises an upper part and a lower part, and said wet and dry paper is located on said lower part of said dowel, such that, in use said abrasive material is located where the claws of said bird rest.
10
4. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said wet and dry paper is adhered to said dowel.
15
5. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said dowel comprises a groove into which an edge of said wet and dry paper is inserted.
20
6. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said dowel comprises wood.
7. A perch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said dowel is provided with fixing means.
8. A perch substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and shown in Figure 1 or Figure 2 or Figure 25 3 or Figure 4 or Figures 5 and 5a of the accompanying drawings.
9. A cage provided with the perch as claimed in any preceding claim.



Application No: GB 9915408.0
Claims searched: 1-11

Examiner: Paul Jenkins
Date of search: 18 October 1999

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK CI (Ed.Q): A1M (MAP)

Int Cl (Ed.6): A01K 31/12

Other: Online: WPI, JAPIO, EPODOC

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X	GB 977667 (SWIFT) Whole document relevant	1-9, 11
X	US 5588397 (JOHNAKIN) Whole document relevant	1-2, 11

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
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